On page 21, before Claim 1, please cancel the word "CLAIMS" and substitute therefore --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. **(Amended)** An isolated or purified **[Amino acid sequence]**polypeptide **[having]**comprising and amino acid sequence more than 70% **[homology with]**homologous to **[the sequence]** SEQ ID **[NO 2]**NO:2.

2. **(Amended)** **[Amino acid sequence]**The isolated or purified polypeptide according to claim 1, **[having]** more than 85% **[homology with the sequence]**homologous to SEQ ID **[NO 2]**NO:2.

3. **(Amended)** **[Amino acid sequence]**The isolated or purified polypeptide according to claim 1 **[or 2]**, **[having]** more than 95% **[homology with the]**homologous to sequence SEQ ID **[NO 2]**NO:2.

4. **(Amended)** **[Amino acid sequence]**The isolated or purified polypeptide according to **[any one of the preceding claims]**claim 1, **[corresponding to]**comprising SEQ ID **[NO 2]**NO:2 or an immunoreactive portion thereof.

5. **(Amended)** An isolated or purified polynucleotide **[Nucleotide sequence]** encoding the amino acid sequence according to **[any one of the preceding claims]**claim 1 and **[presenting]** more than 70% **[homology with]**homologous to SEQ ID **[NO 1]**NO:1 or its complementary strand.

6. **(Amended)** An isolated or purified polynucleotide **[Nucleotide sequence]** according to claim 5, **[having]** more than 85% **[homology with the sequence]**homologous to SEQ ID **[NO 1]**NO:1 or its complementary strand.

7. **(Amended)** An isolated or purified polynucleotide **[Nucleotide sequence]** according to claim 5 more than 95% **[homology with the sequence]**homologous to SEQ ID **[NO 1]**NO:1 or its complementary strand.

8. **(Amended)** An isolated or purified polynucleotide **[Nucleotide sequence]** according to **[any one of the claims 5 to 7, corresponding to the sequence]**claim 5 comprising SEQ ID **[NO 1]**NO:1, its complementary strand or a portion thereof specific for SEQ ID **[NO 1]**NO:1 and comprising more than 15 base pairs.

9. **(Amended)** A**[V]**vector comprising the **[nucleotide sequence according to any one of the]** polynucleotide of claim**[s]** 5 **[to 8]**.

10. **(Amended)** A purified antibody or an active portion of said antibody **[inhibitor directed against]**that specifically binds to the polypeptide **[amino acid or nucleotide sequence according to any one of the]**of claim**[s]** 1 **[to 8]**.

11. **(Amended) [Inhibitor according to claim 10, being an]**The purified antibody, **[preferably]** of claim 2 wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody**[, or a portion of said antibody]**.

12. **(Amended)** A **[D]**diagnostic device comprising an element selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence **[according to any one of the claims 1 to 4]**of claim 1, the nucleotide sequence **[according to any one of the claims 5 to 8]**of claim 2, the **[inhibitor according to claim 10 or 11]** antibody of claim 10, their portions **[or]**and a mixture thereof.

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13. **(Amended) [Method]**A method for the *in vitro* detection of lung injuries and diseases or oxidative stress-related diseases and disorders, **[especially inflammatory diseases,]**comprising the steps of:

-isolating a sample from a body fluid of a patient, **[preferably a human patient,]**

[-possibly inhibiting the contaminants present in said sample,]

-**[put in]** contacting said sample with an element selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence **[according to any one of the claims 1 to 4]**of claim 1, the nucleotide sequence **[according to any one of the claims 5 to 8]**of claim 5, the **[inhibitor according to claim 10 or 11]** antibody of claim 10, their portions **[or]**and a mixture thereof, and

-detecting a reaction of a molecule present in said sample with said element.

14. **(Amended) [Pharmaceutical]**A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an element selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence **[according to any one of the claims 1 to 4]**of claim 1, the nucleotide sequence **[according to any one of the claims 5 to 8]**of claim 5, the **[inhibitor according to claim 10 or 11]** antibody of claim 10, their portions **[or]**and a mixture thereof.

15. **(Amended) [Use of the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention and/or the treatment of lung injuries or diseases, and of]**The method of claim 13 wherein said oxidative stress-related diseases or disorders**[, such as]**are selected from the group consisting of: specific cardio-vascular diseases **[like arteriosclerosis,]** neurodegenerative disorders **[such as Alzheimer's disease,**

Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis,] apoptosis and inflammatory reactions, allergic reactions **[such as asthma, hay fever and eczema,]** high bone mass syndrome, osteopetrosis, osteoporosis-pseudoglioma syndrome, and Bardet-Biedl syndrome 1.

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16. **(Amended)** **[Cell]**A cell transformed by the vector according to claim 9 or comprising a partial or total genomic deletion of **[its]**SEQ ID NO:1, or a homologue thereof **[nucleotide sequence according to any one of the claims 5 to 8]**.

17. **(Amended)** **[Non-human]**A non-human transgenic animal,**[preferably a mammal]** transformed by the vector according to claim 9 or comprising a partial or total genomic deletion of **[its]**SEQ ID NO:1, or a homologue thereof **[nucleotide sequence according to any one of the claims 5 to 8]**.

Please add the following claims:

18. The method of claim 13, wherein said oxidative stress-related diseases and disorders are inflammatory diseases.

19. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of inhibiting the contaminants present in said sample.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein said patient is a human patient.

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21. The method of claim 15 wherein said specific cardio-vascular diseases is arteriosclerosis.

22. The method of claim 15 wherein said neurodegenerative disorders are selected from the group consisting of: Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

23. The method of claim 15 wherein said allergic reactions are selected from the group consisting of: asthma, hay fever and eczema.

24. The transgenic animal of claim 16, wherein said animal is a mammal.

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 have been amended to conform to U.S. practice before the USPTO. Claims 18-24 have been added. Support for added Claims 18-24 can be found in the claims as filed. The Specification has been amended to include the priority international document and to correct minor informalities. No new matter has been added herewith. As a result of the amendments, Claim 1-24 are pending.

This Preliminary Amendment enters a Sequence listing, pages 1-13. Enclosed herewith are: (1) a paper copy of the Sequence Listing, (2) and a computer readable version of the Sequence Listing. In view of the foregoing, the application is believed to fully comply with the Sequence Listing disclosure requirements.

VERIFICATIONS UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.821(f) & (g)

All of the sequences in the attached Sequence Listing were included in the application as filed. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(g), no new matter is being added herewith. As required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(f), I hereby verify that the data on the computer readable disk and the paper copies of the Sequence Listing submitted herewith are identical.

Conclusion

Should there be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number appearing below.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 22 Feb. 2000

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